



LITTLE TRAVERSE BAY BANDS OF ODAWA INDIANS
7500 ODAWA CIRCLE, HARBOR SPRINGS, MI 49740

TRIBAL COUNCIL TRAVEL REPORT NARRATIVE

From: Regina Gasco Bentley

Date: March 28-31, 2012

Re: 18th Annual Anishinaabemowin-Teg Language Conference

The 18th Annual Anishinaabemowin-Teg Language conference started off Wednesday, March 28, 2012 with registration and a country concert that night. The day was good, and the concert was lively and fun, until one of the elders performing suddenly collapsed on stage. As we later found out, the former tribal chief from Canada, had a heart attack, and walked on around noon the next day.

Thursday, March 29, 2012, I attended "A traditional and Contemporary Native Perspective of Diabetes", presented by Mary Pheasant, and "How we prepare a sacred bundle for our ancestors: An oral history of Ojibwe baby moss bag teachings", presented by Marilyn Debassige. The first workshop focused on the traditional ways of gathering, harvesting and preparing the foods they compared to modern ways. In the second workshop she demonstrated the Indigenous knowledge and teachings such as Grandmother Hand Drum Teachings, Amulet Bags, songs, etc. Finally, to end the night I attended the wonderful traditional feast.

Friday, March 30, 2012, I attended an arts and crafts workshop, where I learned to make sweetgrass dreamcatchers. Later, I went to the "Third person sentence structures, taking an object, singular or plural" workshop taught by Mr. Howard Webkamigad.

Saturday, March 31, 2012 I went to the workshop for "Using our knowledge of the land as a way to keep our language".

I would like to say chii-miigwech to the tribal council for giving me the opportunity to be a part of this conference yet again. Being able to be surrounded by our youth, adults, and elders speaking the language is a wonderful experience, and has a way of showing how alive our language and culture still is today. And also how very important the language department is to keeping the language strong in our community.

Regina Bentley